
DIGEST

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Murray

SB No. 290

Present law creates the Louisiana Universities Marine Consortium (LUMCON) for the purpose of conducting research and promoting education in the marine sciences and marine technology, with a focus on coastal resources. Further provides that such functions be performed primarily at the LUMCON Center on the La. gulf coast.

Proposed law retains the purpose specified in present law but specifies that LUMCON is a statewide entity and removes the restriction that such functions be performed primarily at the LUMCON Center.

Present law provides that the LUMCON executive board is composed of:

1. The chancellor and one vice chancellor, chosen by the chancellor of Louisiana State University and Agricultural and Mechanical College in Baton Rouge.
2. The president and one vice president, chosen by the president of Nicholls State University.
3. The president and one vice president, chosen by the president of the University of Southwestern Louisiana.

Proposed law reconfigures the membership of the LUMCON executive board and provides for voting and non-voting members as follows:

1. The vice chancellor of research for Louisiana State University and Agricultural and Mechanical College, who shall serve as a voting member.
2. A vice chancellor or dean, appointed by the chancellor of Louisiana State University and Agricultural and Mechanical College, who shall serve as a non-voting member.
3. The vice president of research for La. Tech University, who shall serve as a voting member.
4. A vice president or dean, appointed by the president of La. Tech University, who shall serve as a non-voting member.
5. A vice president, appointed by the president of Nicholls State University, who shall serve as a voting member.
6. A vice president or dean, appointed by the president of Nicholls State University, who shall serve as a non-voting member.
7. The vice president of research for Tulane University, who shall serve as a voting member.
8. A vice president or dean, appointed by the president of Tulane University, who shall serve as a non-voting member.
9. The vice president of research for the University of New Orleans, who shall serve as a voting member.
10. A vice president or dean, appointed by the president of the University of New Orleans, who shall serve as a non-voting member.

11. The vice president of research for the University of La. at Lafayette, who shall serve as a voting member.
12. A vice president or dean, appointed by the president of the University of La. at Lafayette, who shall serve as a non-voting member.
13. A vice president or dean, appointed by the president of the University of La. at Monroe, who shall serve as a voting member.
14. A vice president or dean, appointed by the president of the University of La. at Monroe, who shall serve as a non-voting member.
15. The chair of the board's Science and Education Advisory Council, who shall serve as a voting member.
16. A member of the staff of the Bd. of Regents, appointed by the commissioner of higher education, who shall serve as a non-voting member.
17. A representative from the State Board of Elementary and Secondary Education, appointed by the president of the board, who shall serve as a non-voting member.

Further provides that only voting members will be counted for purposes of constituting a quorum for the transaction of business.

Present law provides that the executive board be chaired for a one-year term by one of the postsecondary institution chief executive officers and provides for a vice chair and second vice chair.

Proposed law retains the one-year term for the board chair but specifies that the chair shall be either a vice president or vice chancellor of research. Restricts members to no more than two consecutive terms as board chair and deletes provisions relative to additional offices.

Present law requires the executive board to create an advisory council composed of representatives from member institutions and public and private agencies that use the consortium's facilities. Further provides for representation from each 4-year postsecondary institution offering a baccalaureate degree in science and engineering and one representative from the La. Assoc. of Independent Colleges and Universities. Provides that the advisory council would meet as necessary at the request of the executive board to respond to requests and provide perspective.

Proposed law retains the advisory function of the council but repeals the remaining provisions and instead statutorily creates the Science and Education Advisory Council with the following membership:

1. One faculty representative from each 4-year public college and university, appointed by the president or chancellor of each institution.
2. One faculty representative from each of the member institutions of the La. Association of Independent Colleges and Universities, appointed by the president or chancellor.
3. One representative from the La. Community and Technical College System, appointed by the president of such system.

Present law requires the LUMCON executive director to submit an annual report of the consortium's activities to the executive board by Dec. 31st of each year.

Proposed law retains these provisions and additionally requires that:

1. The executive board, in consultation with the board's advisory council, formulate a 5-year master plan for the consortium's program and initiatives and make revisions as warranted and necessary. The initial master plan must be submitted to the Bd. of Regents not later than February 1, 2013.

2. The chair of the executive board, the board's executive director, and the chair of the advisory council shall annually make a joint report to the Bd. of Regents regarding the consortium's efficacy in achieving its overall mission through implementation of the master plan.

(Amends R.S. 17:3451, 3453(B), (D), and (E), and 3456; Adds R.S. 17:3453.1; Repeals R.S. 17:3453(F))

Summary of Amendments Adopted by Senate

Senate Floor Amendments to engrossed bill.

1. Changes the voting member from Nicholls State University from the "vice president of research" to a "vice president, appointed by the university president".

Summary of Amendments Adopted by House

Committee Amendments Proposed by House Committee on Education to the reengrossed bill.

1. Adds a voting member and a non-voting member from the Univ. of La. at Monroe to the executive board.